

Suzanne M. Stauffer: Currently a third-year doctoral student in Library and Information Science at UCLA, specializing in information-seeking behavior. Intend to teach library school after graduation. Earned an MLS in 1986 from Brigham Young University. 1987-1989 Adult Services/General Reference/Technical Services (among other positions) Long Beach Public Library, New York. 1989-1996 Judaica/Technical Services Librarian Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York.

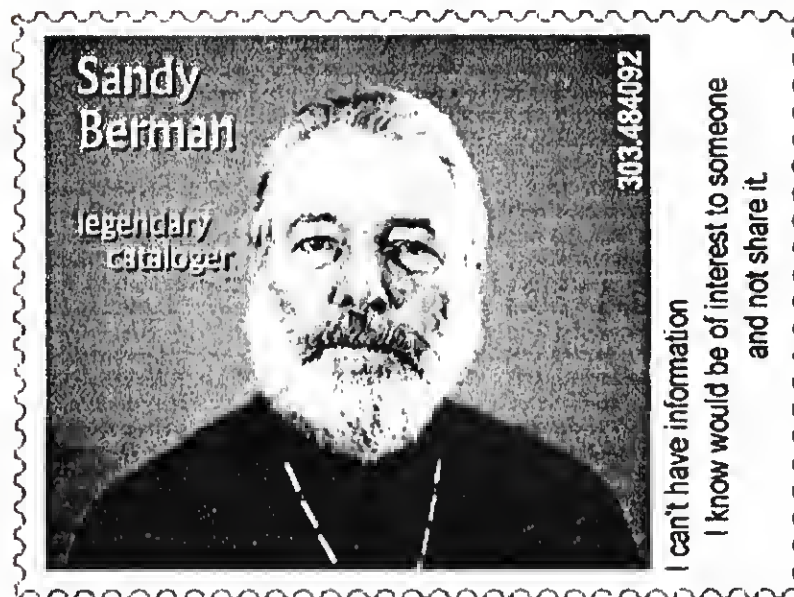
Jessamyn West is more than she lets on at librarian.net.

Steve Willis: I am the Technical Services/Public Services Librarian at South Puget Sound Community College in Olympia, Wash. I've been here since 1991. Before that I have worked at Timberland Regional Library, Seattle Public Library, University of Washington, Wash. State Dept. of Transportation Library, Washington State University (where, as a cataloger, I helped start a large academic special collection of underground and Newave comix), The Evergreen State College, and WLN. I have been drawing comix since I can remember. Most folks know me as "the Morty the Dog Guy."



18 out of 18 zine contributors think Sandy's head should be on that wall.
Art by Steve Willis.

KISS MY FILING INDICATORS



art by Jessamyn West

the SANDY BERMAN ROCKS MY SOCKS issue

introduction

I have no idea why Chris Dodge asked me to compile this zine. Sandy Berman barely knows me at all. We've met a handful of times and he can never remember how to say my name right. (For the record, it's KAH-tee-ah. Accent on the first syllable. Sounds like "Mafia", kind of.)

While he may not know me, I definitely know him. I heard about him on my very first day of library school, as a matter of fact. My cataloging professor told us about a guy in Minnesota who started assigning subject headings to fiction despite the Library of Congress's protests. I thought that was a pretty cool thing to do and couldn't understand why LC would have a problem with it. (I was so young, I was so naïve.) I soon decided that Sandy Berman was a swell guy, and I keep finding more evidence of this all the time.

Obviously, I'm not the only one who thinks so. This zine is proof of that. Sandy has inspired the hell out of everyone who contributed, along with countless other people out there.

I'm bad with superlatives, but if I weren't, I would apply every single one I know to Sandy Berman. (I would even invent a few that don't already exist, too.)

Happy reading, Sandy. You rock our worlds.

Katia Roberto, June 16, 1999

P.S. Special thanks to Chris Dodge and Mitch Freedman for going above and beyond the call of duty to help create this zine. You two rock as well.

Alison Lewis is currently managing a project to automate a 250-year-old card catalog. She credits two semesters of cataloging coursework with Doris Clack at Florida State as providing her with the skills needed to keep body and soul together during far too many years of graduate school.

Rory Litwin: Recent library school graduate seeking a reference job in an academic library, publisher of Library Juice, webmaster for Progressive Librarians Guild and Progressive Librarian, Alternatives In Print Task Force busybody, all-around worker bee.

Peter McDonald is the Director of the Geneva Library at Cornell University. He's been a librarian since 1987 and has been active in numerous social and progressive causes both within the profession and without since the Sixties.

Mev Miller has been the Project Coordinator of the Women's Presses Library Project (WPLP) since 1994. Additionally, she works as a book buyer for Amazon Bookstore - the oldest feminist bookstore in North America. Currently, she is coordinating the website -- www.litwomen.org -- which houses the site for WPLP and Women Leading Through Reading, a community literacy program for women which she co-founded. And one more thing, Mev is a candidate for an Ed.D. in Critical Pedagogy at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN.

A. Ralph Papakhian: Music Librarian/Cataloger. Former President and Treasurer of American Federation of Teachers, Local 2254 (Indiana University -- now defunct). Protestor of U.S. war in Viet Nam and protestor of U.S. bombing of Yugoslavia.

Katia Roberto is a native Illinoisian who has to finish a term paper before officially graduating from library school. She has vowed to never burn a book again (except maybe for the LC rule interpretations...)

Karen Eliot is a pseudonymous information professional who doesn't feel like having any more publicity. So there.

Steve Fesenmaier: I was head of West Virginia Library Commission, Film Services for 20 years, 1978-1/99, winning many awards, co-founding the WV Intl. Film Festival, reviewing films for the Appalachian Intelligencer, WV Arts News, and since 1991 for the largest statewide monthly in WV, "Graffiti". NPR did a 10-minute profile of our program on Thanksgiving 1987. I have worked on many films including "Matewan" by John Sayles and Les Blanks' "In Heaven There is No Beer?". I was chairman of the U Film Society in Minneapolis from 1972-78 where I graduated magna cum laude in philosophy of science and received my MA in library science. At the age of 28 I came to WV and made this the "model statewide film program" in the US according to the US Dept. of Education in 1987, the only major national award ever won by WVLC. Since I was transferred to the newly created position of "research librarian", I have done research on key issues like UNIX and WANS, and brought the new statistical package, BIBLIOSAT CONNECT, to WV's 178 public libraries. (I worked in long range planning at the Univ. of Minnesota 1971-73.)

Jenna Freedman is a student at the University of South Florida. She has known Sandy since she was five years old, and is a better person for it.

As previously noted, Mitch Freedman is the guy who was responsible for bringing Sandy to HCL in the first place. These days, he is the director of Westchester Library System in New York.

Dorchester Dog Hip is a dishwashing poet and co-editor of Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sandy Berman But Were Afraid to Ask (McFarland, 1995).

Earl Lee is Collection Development Librarian at Pittsburg State University in Pittsburg, Kansas. He is the author of Libraries in the Age of Mediocrity and a novel, Drakulya.

Sandy Berman has influenced an entire generation of librarians by showing that activism and librarianship can co-exist. He challenged the notion of what it was to be a librarian and expanded the parameters of librarianship. For him, there was no separation between the personal and the political. He was a strong advocate for the oppressed, sexual freedom and alternative press. He was an untiring crusader against the racist, sexist, obscure and unclear subject headings assigned by the Library of Congress, so much so that the Library of Congress felt obligated to respond occasionally to his petitioning.

More than any other, he liberated information. If he had information to share, he did. He distributed his "Sandy packets" to those who could make the most use of them. There was a passion about his involvement and work accomplishments. Even the abrupt end to his career was handled with personal integrity by standing firm at a great cost for what he believed in. He will continue to serve as a role model for generations of librarians to come.

- Byron Anderson

I've told people before the story of how had it not been for Sandy Berman's and Jim Danky's Alternative Library Literature I wouldn't be where I am today, nor have become involved in radical ideas in librarianship, so enough of that one.

Sandy sent my first son his own copy of the beautiful children's book, Save my rainforest. Just turned four, it's now one of Daniel's favourite books. He knows more about the issues surrounding rainforest destruction than I did when I was 30. And he's learnt it in one of the most powerful ways: through reading and interacting with that reading. That such books exist isn't up to Sandy, of course. What's central is that Sandy's work makes them more available to more people. Daniel's lucky: he got the bespoke service. I like to think, though, that Sandy's remarkable approach to cataloguing means that everyone stands to get that service.

- Dr. Chris Atton

Stupidity (May Subd Geog)
UF Idiocy [Former heading]
or
An Ode to Sandy Berman

Sandy Berman is his name
Original cataloging is his game
He knows subjects assigned by LC
Do not always reflect reality
He changes headings till they seem right
Which gives his boss a terrible fright

We must obey, we must conform
We must not stray from the norm
We must not think, we must not smile
Said the letter put in Sandy's file
Fearless people who shoot from the hip
Have no place in librarianship

For Librarianship USE Library science
- Barbara Blair



Sandy Berman, 1977 (photo courtesy of Mitch Freedman)

I have also learned that neutrality and objectivity are not the same as apathy and indifference. I have been empowered to take an active role in advocating and protecting the individual and civil rights and interests of every citizen, especially the marginalized and the dispossessed. I have learned to expect to be called a "nut" and "militant" and "opinionated" and to be criticized as a bad librarian who doesn't know when to keep her mouth shut, and to keep talking.

And I love cataloging!
- Suzanne M. Stauffer

about the contributors

Byron Anderson: In my work-a-day world, I am Head of Reference at Northern Illinois University Libraries. In the alternative sphere (a small section of my world), I am a member of AIP, an Associate Editor of Counterpoise, and Compiler and Editor of Alternative Publishers of Books in North America (the fourth edition was just issued).

Chris Atton is both a researcher in radical and alternative media and an advocate for its increased visibility and recognition in the political and cultural life of our society. He has spoken widely in Europe and North America, and published many papers on this subject. His book, Alternative Literature, published in 1996, has been critically acclaimed in the US and the UK and is considered a key text to understanding the contemporary phenomenon of radical and alternative publishing. He has won numerous awards for his work and last year was presented with the American Library Association's prestigious Eubanks Award 'in recognition of his outstanding achievements in promoting alternative media.' He is currently completing his second book, a sociopolitical examination of the significance of alternative media in new social movements.

Barbara Blair: In putting together this bit of doggerel I was enchanted to find that Stupidity may be subdivided geographically (in case there's not enough to go around?). I am a white haired little old lady librarian, sometimes in tennis shoes, who thinks we should consider Sandy Berman a world class hero right up there with Emma Goldman, Patsy Cline, Genghis Khan and the Dalai Lama (Om Mani Padme Hum). I am not a cataloger even though I sort M&M's by color.

Sandy Berman — Mentor-at-Large

Sandy Berman has never met me. But I have met him, many times.

I was first introduced to Sandy when I was a student in library school in the late '80's. He was described as "some kind of nut" who insisted on "pestering" and "hounding" the subject division of the Library of Congress about "trivial matters." You know the kind of thing: gender and racial equality, individual and ethnic rights, respect for minorities, as reflected in the labels and language and subject headings used by the Library of Congress to categorize information in the nation's libraries.

Throughout the next ten years or so, I kept running into Sandy in the pages of American Libraries and Library Journal and other publications. Articles by or about him and his "crazy cause" and letters to the editor supporting or opposing some action he had taken or had proposed be taken by LC or ALA or just the average public librarian working in the average public library. I wondered what his problem was. Why he didn't just do his job and stop making waves? After all, it didn't make any difference what words librarians used for subject headings. And librarians are supposed to be neutral and objective. Besides, the guy was just a cataloger, for heaven's sake!

And at some point during this period, Sandy moved from the fringes to the mainstream. Or the mainstream moved to where Sandy was. Suddenly, everywhere I looked people were concerned about labels and language and -- yes -- even subject headings. For a while, Sandy was no longer "some kind of nut" but a pioneer, a trailblazer, an advocate of the oppressed.

Of course, that didn't last long. Now Sandy and those like him are once again marginalized, this time as "politically correct nuts" or just "p.c.-niks." But this time, I'm right out there with him. Thanks to Sandy, I know now that words matter, especially the official words that are used to label and categorize people and information. I have learned that catalogers are important and that what they do makes a difference. Catalogers determine the structure and language of information in the library which influences the structure and language of public knowledge and public discourse which is reflected in the social and legal structures based on that discourse.



waving Sandynistas, 6/99 (photo courtesy of Chris Dodge)

Actually, Sandy DID indirectly inspire me to stay in library school, when I found a copy of Alternative Library Literature in the stacks of the Wayne State University library. I felt so alone in library school, the only political person, and certainly the most idealistic. Then later, reading about Sandy's amazing cataloging exploits was very encouraging to me.

- Karen Eliot

I remember meeting Sandy at a book fair at Macalester College in St. Paul. As soon as I met him, I instantly started talking with him like I had known him my whole life...I think that I argued with him about censoring snuff movies, or some such thing. As the person who started the "all porno film society" (which I called "The First Amendment Film Society"), lots of people were concerned in 1977 about things like snuff movies. That was during library school. His colleague at HCL, Don Roberts, had just talked me out of quitting library school at the U. of Minnesota. I have kept in touch with Sandy here in West Virginia, especially after my friend Yvonne Farley got to meet him on the Hawaii Outsourcing ALA committee. Now, for more than a year, I have been in weekly touch with him. In January 1999 I myself was pushed out of my job as head of the Film Services Division of the West Virginia Library Commission. I had a nervous breakdown, and took 6 weeks off. Sandy kept in touch with me daily, and even sent me some flowers. Little did I realize that he himself was going to be "horsewhipped" as I had been.

Sandy is the "best man since Melvil Dewey" and a whole lot more fun!

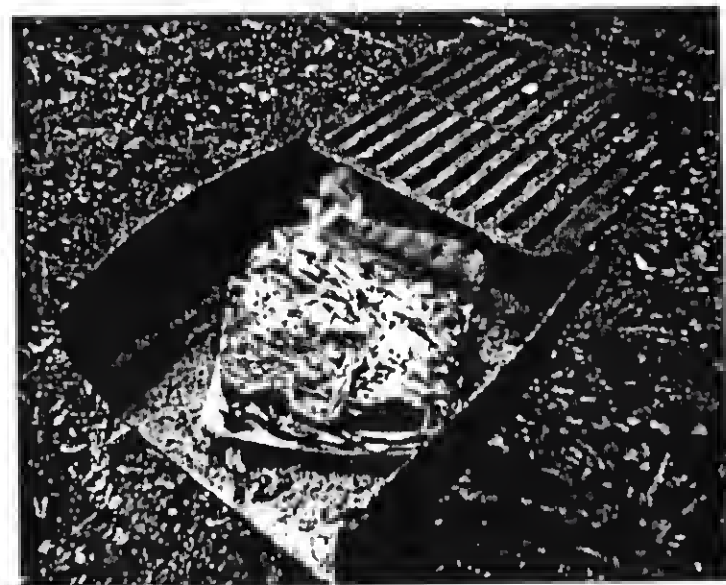
- Steve Fesenmaier

Ten Things I Love About Sandy Berman

1. He looks great in a dashiki
 2. The Joy of Cataloging: Essays, Reviews, Letters, and Other Explosions
 3. The toilet he made of the Library of Congress's water closet
 4. He added "coprophilia" to my vocabulary
 5. He adds more subject headings per capita than any other cataloger
 6. He disseminates knowledge as fast as a speeding postal carrier will allow
 7. He leaps tall bureaucracies in as many bounds as it takes
 8. He makes libraryland safe and accessible for the Acronymically challenged; Belly dancers; Chan, Jackie; the Decriminalization of marijuana; Erotic humor; Frisbee; Gay poets, prisoners, & socialists; Heterosexuality; and much, much, more
 9. I've learned more by his example than I could ever learn by the teaching of any LIS program [if only I were in an IS program!]
 10. He wears LOVE in his love beads
- Jenna Freedman

I've been in the library profession since 1965. There are a number of things I've done that I'm proud of. One of the best professional decisions I made as head of technical services at the Hennepin County Library was to hire Sandy Berman as Head Cataloger. This gave Sandy, until Hennepin's recent and permanent grotesque shame, a secure platform from which he could provide librarians everywhere an inspired and brilliant example of how cataloging can serve people rather than degrade and insult them, and one must not omit, he demonstrated that cataloging actually can help people find what they are looking for.

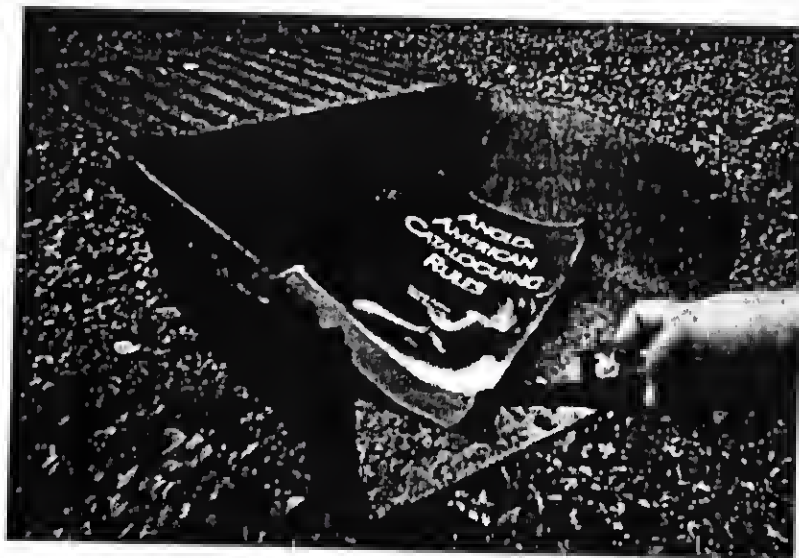
We had good times back then. Professionally and politically we shared the same agenda, and Hennepin had the resources to support the wonderful things that Sandy and the cataloging staff were doing, as well as the technology tasks that Jerry Pennington (the assistant head of tech services and super computer person) and I tinkered with that incidentally facilitated the cataloging changes that Sandy made.



-Katia Roberto

This Essay Is Really 4015 Words Long

Sandy Berman taught me that you could break the rules and still be a cataloger.



The irony and ludicrousness of HCL's malevolence toward him and his work—despite Hennepin's protestations to the contrary—is that HCL is getting \$100,000 in royalties from the database created under his leadership and direction.

Following is an e-mail message I sent to Chris Dodge, a cataloger at Hennepin, on the prospect of Sandy's leaving HCL; Sandy had not yet resigned.

"It is crucial that Sandy not see himself as the victim that they subdued, but the shining example for everyone of what was possible, what everyone talked about, but what he actually did—and those miserable monsters were too venal and craven to appreciate and recognize the gift they had.

"They are the losers and Sandy always will be the winner—he has created a legacy of ideology, principles, practice, and hundreds of thousands of living and breathing cataloging records. In sum this record of achievement will transcend the Lilliputian thugs at HCL who are messing with him and the fools who support them either for their current actions or for the policy of slavish adherence to LC, all sense and sensibility be damned.

"When I left Hennepin in 1974, Sandy said it was the end of Camelot. Well, when Sandy goes, it is going to be the end of brilliance, innovation and social responsibility in cataloging for the world. I mean no disrespect to all of you who have labored with him to create the grand record of Hennepin cataloging, but it is hard to see how any individual person or group of people will be able to impact so very many different aspects of our overall professional mission.

"God, it sounds like an obituary or as if I am convinced he is leaving.

"Sorry for the ventilating, but I feel so sad and angry. I also hate to see him treated so badly. He is so strong in ideology and principle, but he's also extremely sensitive and I'm sure badly hurting on the personal level. For that matter I can't imagine any human who could survive such a nasty, vicious and totally inhumane onslaught without feeling some pain."

[This was followed by a couple of other remarks that concluded the message.]

He has two wonderful children, Jill and Paul, a lovely daughter-in-law, Kristi, and a delightfully cute and smiley granddaughter, Jasmine. I wish him the joy of his loving family, friends and his colleagues of the library profession whose lives he has so enriched.

Sanford, have a wonderful retirement, but don't go away.

Love,

Mitch Freedman, Hennepin County Library, 1969-1974

That Berman has to do everything in a big way. Feh! Case in point: the guy went in for a coronary bypass... and ended up having a freakin *quintuple*! Family and longtime friends know that Sandy's culinary tastes once focused on two main food groups: wurst and pastries. On the first day back at work after post-surgical recuperation, though, he brought a brown bag lunch. In his sack were one apple, one orange, one banana. "Sandy," I exclaimed, "Isn't that a little drastic?" "I quit smoking cold turkey," he grumped. Also typical of Sandy: he must have added a dozen or more cross-references under subject headings related to heart surgery. Obsessive? Perhaps. Useful? Absolutely.

- Dorchester Dog Hip

I've never met Sandy Berman face to face, but it seems like I've known him forever. He is a force for good in our world. He regularly offers help, assistance, and encouragement to those librarians who struggle daily with the problems of serving people, the people coming into our libraries to find out about our world. Sometimes these people are kids just taking their first steps, sometimes they are adults, and sometimes they are older people who are still curious and still want to know more.

Over the years, I periodically received envelopes stuffed with all kinds of materials, articles, cataloging lists, and always one special bookmark with his flaring signature on it. Sometimes it would take me weeks to work through them, but Sandy is an expert librarian quick to share events at and news of Hennepin Library as well as interesting tidbits of information that I almost always found useful. Even shortly after his heart surgery I was amazed to receive one of those envelopes so soon afterwards -- that, of course, is when I knew he was well on his way to recovery!! Sandy possesses a generosity of spirit rarely encountered. I've also found refreshing his ability to remain willing to use his typewriter with the well-worn letters and smudges in the midst of a profession swept up in the newest of technologies. It's clear that Sandy continues to be one of those unique people who so passionately cares about his own work and the health of his profession and the willingness to connect persons and ideas and tools.

Most importantly to me, though, Sandy has been an important ally for the Women's Presses Library Project. His continued support of our work, his willingness to pass along useful information to us, and his ability to keep us in touch with like-minded librarians has been a treasure to us - one that has helped us in invisible and uncountable ways. Thanks, Sandy, for all your continued resistance, persistence, insistence. You have my support and that of the other women's presses and we look forward to a time when you'll be back at your work in the library doing all the things you do so well.

- Mev Miller

Sandy Berman--I heard about him and read about him while in library school 26 years ago. He was essentially the only practitioner or theoretician in librarianship addressing the relationship between library services and library users. Occasionally someone who is in tune with the people materializes--someone who can be nothing except active in the cause of humanity and humaneness; someone who disregards all received societal boundaries. Librarianship has had few such revolutionaries, and Sandy must be counted as a true revolutionary. Even as bombs destroy civilization in Yugoslavia, as society inches toward barbarism, revolutionaries like Sandy Berman remain our only link to a society that might someday be free of repression, poverty, homelessness, greed and exploitation.

Thank you, Sandy.

- A. Ralph Papakhian

But now of course, just when he deserved a rousing entry into retirement as a Sequoia amid the drab shrubbery of our profession, that, furthermore, such a stalwart should be shamed and humiliated by the pinhead management of the Hennepin County Library this past spring, a spineless cabal as we now plainly see who "promoted" Sandy into the dustbin of professional obscurity, is utterly unconscionable. Shame on the pooh-bahs at HCL!

In summation, I can only say as one lone voice in library-land that Sandy Berman has been for me from my first days as a library student, a beacon of decency, common sense, socialist ideals and deep humanity. I am honored to call him my friend and feel that even if HCL is too hidebound to honor its best and brightest, then we, meaning SRRT, PLG and other concerned library workers, would do well to honor Sandy in some meaningful fashion at Mid-winter in San Antonio, perhaps at PLG's 10 year anniversary. You're a better man than I, Sandy Berman. Thanks for being there for the rest of us.
- Peter McDonald

When I first started doing work with the Women's Presses Library Project in 1994, I wanted to talk to supportive librarians who could give me tips and encouragement on forwarding the visibility of the books published by women-owned independent presses. One of the publishers in our group mentioned that I should contact Sandy Berman at Hennepin County Library. So I did.

Our first meeting turned out to be one of those special moments that bring forth more opportunity than one would have expected. Sandy, with his many years of experience, offered names of all kinds of people to contact. He also offered -- in his own special Berman-esque way -- pounds of paper with all kinds of information - especially about cataloging and the ways our books could be more accurately found or described by his broadened system for cataloging in the most rare and unique (and totally obvious) subject areas.

Sandy has for many years advocated getting rid of the artificial barriers that hold people back. He has found many people who work with him in these efforts. I hope they have the courage to keep moving forward. Certainly Sandy has been an icon of moral courage in our profession.

President Kennedy once said, "Some people see things as they are and ask 'Why?' I dream things that never were and say 'Why not?'" This describes Sandy Berman perfectly, because where many people ask "Why?", he has always been one of the few who says, "Why not?"
- Earl Lee

Sanford Berman is justifiably famous for the influence he has had on cataloging procedures, particularly the use of subject headings and questioning the tyranny of LC, in public libraries. I have a slightly different spin on this influence. As someone who began her career as a "solo" librarian in special libraries, I did not have the benefits (or drawbacks) of being surrounded by other librarians, as those who work in public or academic libraries usually do. I relied heavily on library literature to keep myself informed and to maintain ties with other professionals. I began to read religiously a column that Sandy was writing in a small publication (wish I could remember its name!) and quickly became converted to his way of thinking. At that time I was running the library for the Florida Geological Survey, and one issue at hand was the fact that LC did not approve of using geologic formation names as subject headings. Well, geologists are used to using the geologic formation as their most basic unit of study and they WANTED to be able to search by formation name. So, of course, in our library and any other library that was sensitive to the real life research needs of the scientist, they COULD search by formation name, LC be damned. Those of us who worked with geoscience information also banded together and started lobbying LC to change this "rule." I feel like Sandy helped raise my consciousness for where my real priorities were (serving the library user, not mindlessly following orders from above), and helped me feel less alone. I also feel that he has ennobled the role of the cataloger (often seen as performing "drudge" work) by showing that it is not only possible but desirable to be humanistically and intellectually engaged while cataloging library materials!
- Allison Lewis

To health and happiness and Sanford Berman

Way back in 1995 I somehow became exposed to Charles Willett's Librarians @ Liberty, and through subscribing and reading it learned about Sandy Berman's career and writings. This gave me the inspiration to finally choose a path in life, and soon I went off to library school, full of inspiration (which made me something of an oddity there). During my first year in the program (1996-97) Sandy was a star in the library constellation; I knew him as a crusading author of books and articles and as a newsmaker. (LC changed the "Man" subject headings that year.) The following summer I went to the ALA conference in San Francisco, and attended the Free Speech Buffet. I was talking to Noel Peattie, who was still publishing SIPAPU, I think, and I mentioned reading something of Sandy's. The next thing I knew he was taking me across the room to introduce me to a tall, bearded man with a big sweet voice, who was Sandy Berman. Sandy gave me a greeting that I will always remember for its warmth and kindness. He put his arm around me and walked me over to the table set up by the Down There Press, and showed me a book of erotic photography which had his preferred cataloging printed right alongside LC's Cataloging in Publication. The two examples of cataloging communicated two entirely different perceptions of the world as a whole, and Sandy was proud and happy to show me the difference, the difference between the world as he knows it and the world according to the Library of Congress. I want to thank you, Sandy, for welcoming me into a more colorful library world, as you have so many others, and for inspiring me to treat librarianship as a mission and to try to practice it with lots of humanity. I feel slightly rude making a personal thanks in public - because I know I wouldn't be able to say it the same, and "remembering Sandy" in the third person feels a little like talking about him as though he were dead, somewhat unnatural. So, if I am not at that dinner in New Orleans, here's a long distance toast! To health and happiness and Sanford Berman!

- Rory Litwin

I had long heard of the indefatigable Sandy Berman when I was a MLS student at Columbia University back in the mid-eighties. Cataloging professors there spoke of Berman in tones of rankled exasperation, which bordered on petulant hostility. That this

lone gadfly of accessible subject headings was able single-handed to promote a relentless social perspective upon the entrenched, thoroughly Euro-centric, male dominant and quasi-racist LC classification system seemed to perturb the cosseted world of their tidy intellectual privilege. To listen to them, was to believe that one uppity barbarian out in the hinterland of Minnesota might single-handedly crash the gates of Caucasoid superiority enshrined so rightly, as they fervently believed, in the cannons of 19th century library-speak.

It wasn't until my colleague and friend at NYPL, Wendy Thomas, current chair of SRRT, invited me to attend a meeting of progressive librarians, which ultimately formed the organization PLG, at the Empire State College School of Labor Relations on 42nd St. in the fall of 1989, that I finally got to meet the fabled barbarian of Minnesota. Well, Sandy had the bulk and beard of a barbarian, but from the moment we shook hands, I knew I was in the presence of an old socialist soul with an impish twinkle to his eye, coupled with a fine sense of humor and a warm personality that was utterly disarming.

Two years later, in 1991 while attending a conference in Minneapolis, I had the privilege to meet Sandy again through my friend Chris Dodge. Chris and his wife Jan Desirey, Sandy and his delightful wife Lorraine, and I met for supper in a ribs dive somewhere out in a rough and tumble neighborhood of the hood and it was from that enjoyable evening that my ten-year friendship with Sandy began over chitlins and cheap beer.

We have been comrades in arms ever since. Sandy's undying support of the work Chris Dodge and I did around the Columbus Quincentennial back in 1991-1992 proved invaluable. Almost weekly Sandy's famous packages would arrive in my mailbox, the trademark recycled envelopes crammed with god-knows-what-all, pamphlets, radical broadsides, newspaper clippings, even the stub of an electric utility bill once, and the inevitable words of encouragement. (I believe to this day, that this is how Sandy cleared the junk off his desk, by mailing it to all his pals around the globe in those tatty envelopes armored with tape and staples. Whatta guy!) In all the years since, I have never known Sandy to be anything less than a champion of the underdog. Only his bout with heart trouble some years back, about the time of his wife's death, slowed this fierce bear of principle and decency down.